AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.   (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

detecting, by a portable computer system, a docking device class circuit present on a bus ~~in a~~ connecting a docking station to ~~which~~ the portable computer system ~~is docked, the portable computer system and the docking station being connected by a bus therebetween~~; and

obtaining by the portable computer system, a description of at least one device in the docking station from the docking device class circuit by obtaining a list of devices under the control of the docking device class circuit, wherein the obtaining of the list of devices includes obtaining the list of devices under the control of a general purpose I/O device under the control of the docking device class circuit.

2.   (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

controlling the at least one device via commands appropriate to the bus.

3.   (Original) The method of Claim 2, wherein the bus comprises at least one Universal Serial Bus, at least one Peripheral Component Interconnect Bus, or at least one AT bus, or at least one wireless bus, or at least one optical bus.

4.   (Original) The method of Claim 2, wherein said controlling the at least one device via commands appropriate to the bus further comprises:

controlling at least one device associated with docking.

5.   (Original) The method of Claim 2, wherein said controlling the at least one
device via commands appropriate to the bus further comprises:
controlling at least one power supply in a docking station.

6.   (Original) The method of Claim 5, wherein said controlling at least one power
supply in a docking station further comprises:
activating a power supply having voltage appropriate to a portable computer
      system.

7.   (Original) The method of Claim 2, wherein said controlling the at least one
device via commands appropriate to the bus further comprises:
controlling at least one power rail that supplies power to a portable computer
      system.

8.   (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said detecting a docking device class
circuit present on a bus further comprises:
detecting an identifier associated with the docking device class circuit.

9.   (Original) The method of Claim 8, wherein said detecting an identifier associated
with the docking device class circuit further comprises:
detecting an identification number reserved for the docking device class circuit.

10.   (Cancelled).

11.   (Allowed) A method comprising:
detecting a docking device class circuit present on a bus; and
obtaining a description of at least one device in a docking station from the
      docking device class circuit by obtaining a list of devices under the control

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of the docking device class circuit, wherein the obtaining a list of devices includes obtaining a list of devices under the control of a general purpose I/O device under the control of the docking device class circuit.

12.   (Allowed) A method comprising:

detecting a docking device class circuit present on a bus; and

obtaining a description of at least one device in a docking station from the docking device class circuit by obtaining a list of devices under the control of the docking device class circuit, wherein the obtaining a list of devices includes obtaining driver code appropriate to the at least one device.

13.   (Allowed) A method comprising:

detecting a docking device class circuit present on a bus; and

obtaining a description of at least one device in a docking station from the docking device class circuit by obtaining a list of devices under the control of the docking device class circuit, wherein the obtaining a list of devices includes obtaining driver code appropriate to the docking device class circuit.

14.   (Allowed) A method comprising:

detecting a docking device class circuit present on a bus; and

obtaining a description of at least one device in a docking station from the docking device class circuit by obtaining a list of devices under the control of the docking device class circuit, wherein the obtaining a list of devices includes obtaining driver code combination set appropriate to both the docking device class circuit and the at least one device.

15. (Allowed) A method comprising:

detecting a docking device class circuit present on a bus; and

obtaining a description of at least one device in a docking station from the

docking device class circuit by obtaining a list of devices under the control

of the docking device class circuit, wherein the obtaining a list of devices

includes obtaining a bus description table from the docking device class

circuit.

16. (Allowed) A method comprising:

detecting a docking device class circuit present on a bus; and

obtaining a description of at least one device in a docking station from the .

docking device class circuit by obtaining a list of devices under the control

of the docking device class circuit, wherein the obtaining a list of devices

includes obtaining a description of at least one Peripheral Component

Interconnect bus resident within a docking device, or at least one .

Universal Serial Bus resident within a docking device, or at least one

Accelerated Graphics Port Bus resident within a docking device, or at

least one AT bus resident within a docking device, or at least one

proprietary bus, or at least one wireless bus, or at least one optical bus.

17. (Currently Amended) A docking station comprising:

a docking connector for coupling a portable computer system to the docking

station; and

a docking device class circuit, coupled to the docking connector the docking

device class circuit providing the portable computer system with a

description of at least one device in the docking station by obtaining a list

of devices under the control of the docking device class circuit, including

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obtaining a list of devices under the control of a general purpose I/O device under the control of the docking device class circuit.

18.   (Original) The docking station of Claim 17, further comprising:
the docking device class circuit operably coupled to a device associated with docking.

19.   (Original) The docking station of Claim 18, further comprising:
the docking device class circuit operably coupled to at least one device associated with ad hoc functions or at least one power supply device.

20.   (Cancelled).

21.   (Previously Amended) A docking station comprising:
a docking device class circuit having a bus description table.

22.   (Previously Amended) A docking station comprising:
a docking device class circuit; and
at least one optical connector or at least one wireless connector.

23.   (Cancelled).

24.   (Cancelled).

25.   (Cancelled).

26.   (Cancelled).

27.   (Cancelled).

28.   (Cancelled).

29.   (Cancelled).

30.   (Cancelled).

31.   (Cancelled).

32.   (Cancelled).

33.   (Cancelled).

34.   (Cancelled).

35.   (Cancelled).

36.   (Cancelled).

37.   (Cancelled).

38.   (Cancelled).

39.   (Cancelled).

40.   (Cancelled).

41.   (Cancelled).

42.   (Cancelled).

43.   (Cancelled).

44.   (Cancelled).

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46.   (Cancelled).

47.   (Cancelled).

48.   (Cancelled).

49.   (Cancelled).

50.   (Cancelled).

51.   (Cancelled).

52.   (Cancelled).

53.   (Cancelled).

54.   (Cancelled).

55.   (Cancelled).